



TENNESSEE  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE

State Statistician: Gene Danekas  
P.O. Box 41505  
Nashville, TN 37204-1505  
1-800-626-0987

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/tn>

## TENNESSEE WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



Released Weekly April - November

2000 Weather Crop 3

Issued 3:00 P.M. , CST 04/17/00

Week Ending April 16, 2000

### CORN PLANTING HAMPERED BY WET CONDITIONS

Rain showers moved across Tennessee last week bringing most field activities to a halt. The moisture, however, was a welcome sight to many areas still recovering from last summer's drought. As of Sunday, corn planting was running slightly behind normal and farmers are anxious to get back into their fields and make up for lost time. A small amount of the early seeded corn was hurt by freezing temperatures two weeks ago, but most of the damaged acreage is showing good signs of recovery. Cotton field preparations were delayed as growers wait for drier conditions and warmer soil temperatures. The State's wheat crop continues to be rated in mostly good-to-excellent condition. Some growers are concerned that last week's soggy conditions could lead to disease problems in the coming weeks. Fungicides are currently being applied. Nearly all the tobacco beds had been seeded and growers are busy clipping their more mature plants. Some disease problems have been reported and growers are taking corrective measures. Only two days were considered suitable for fieldwork during the past week. Other field activities last week included fertilizing and spraying herbicides on pastures, applying burn-down chemicals, and plowing under winter cover crops. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 3 percent short, 65 percent adequate, and 32 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 1 percent very short, 20 percent short, 61 percent adequate, and 18 percent surplus.

#### CROP PROGRESS: Through April 16, 2000

#### CROP CONDITION: On April 14, 2000

Crop	This Week	Last Week	1999	Five Year Avg.	Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Percent		
								Fair	Good	Exc
Corn - Planted	35	25	28	41	Wheat	0	2	13	54	31
Tobacco - Seeded	92	90	92	94	Pastures	1	7	31	53	8
Tobacco - Plants Up	82	73	71	74	Strawberries	3	4	38	48	7
Winter Wheat - Jointed	95	88	80	85	Alfalfa	1	4	27	57	11
Winter Wheat - Headed	13	N/A	10	10						
Apples - Blooming or Beyond	89	75	57	77						
Peaches - Blooming or Beyond	98	87	94	93						

**CORN:** Producers were only able to plant an additional 10 percent of the corn acreage last week due to wet field conditions. Planting will be in high gear once the weather improves. Most of the crop came through the earlier freeze unharmed.

**TOBACCO:** Virtually all tobacco beds had been seeded by the end of the week with 82 percent emerged plants. Growers are currently clipping plants and setting outside float beds. Some counties reported disease problems in plants brought in from other states.

**WHEAT:** As of Sunday, the majority of the crop was rated in good-to-excellent conditions with very little disease problems reported. Growers are concerned that damp weather and cooler than normal temperatures will set up conditions for disease outbreaks. As a result, many are currently spraying or preparing to spray fungicides. Crop development is running slightly ahead of normal.

**FRUITS:** The majority of the State's apple and peach trees have surpassed the freeze-sensitive blooming stage. Damage from the earlier freeze continues to be reported as minimal. Some growers used sprinkler irrigation to protect their crop from the freezing temperatures.

**PASTURES:** Farmers are currently applying both fertilizer and herbicides to pastures. As of Sunday, 61 percent of pastures were rated in the good-to-excellent range.

**COTTON:** Field preparations continue to be delayed as farmers wait for better planting conditions. Boll weevil traps are currently being placed around fields.

**TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION**  
**For week ending: 04/16/00 (with comparisons)**

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending 04/16/00				Current Week 04/16/00	Rain Days	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN					Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	72	30	55	-7	1.10	5	3.66	+0.62	24	-24
Bristol	69	30	52	-3	0.50	4	2.20	+0.44	10	+6
Brownsville_TN	69	39	55	-6	2.06	2	4.32	+1.49	17	-4
Chattanooga	72	36	58	-2	1.20	3	7.19	+4.81	35	+11
Clarksville_Sew	77	32	56	-3	1.19	3	3.75	+1.28	29	+3
Cookeville	74	27	54	-3	1.39	3	5.23	+2.76	11	+11
Covington	71	36	56	-4	0.35	2	2.14	-0.74	22	-12
Crossville_AP	68	41	54	-2	1.43	3	5.21	+2.61	9	+2
Dickson_AG	76	31	53	-6	0.86	4	2.79	+0.08	21	-6
Dover_1W	71	33	53	-5	1.42	2	4.27	+1.60	23	+7
Dyersburg	68	43	57	-4	1.47	1	3.74	+1.29	25	-16
Erwin_1W	71	31	52	+0	0.51	4	2.17	+0.06	5	-11
Huntingdon_Wate	66	27	51	-9	0.79	2	2.58	+0.11	9	-13
Jackson_AG	71	36	55	-5	0.89	3	3.38	+0.71	18	-14
Kingston_AG	74	36	55	-1	1.00	3	5.99	+3.60	16	+8
Knoxville_AP	71	35	55	-3	1.09	4	4.51	+2.49	20	+5
Lewisburg	68	24	50	-8	1.83	4	5.84	+3.37	7	-10
Lexington_TN	68	28	53	-6	1.54	2	4.16	+1.72	22	+21
Linden	70	27	53	-6	1.63	4	4.62	+2.04	12	-10
Martin	68	34	53	-6	0.61	1	2.36	-0.36	11	-13
Mc_Minville_Tn	76	33	56	-4	1.21	5	4.53	+2.12	23	-13
Memphis_AG	71	23	54	-9	0.91	4	3.49	+0.55	16	-40
Milan	71	25	52	-7	1.41	2	3.48	+0.88	4	-20
Murfreesboro_5N	69	27	52	-6	1.43	2	4.35	+2.00	4	-48
Nashville	68	36	55	-5	0.87	4	2.71	+0.42	23	-5
Newcomb	78	28	53	+0	1.09	3	3.85	+1.49	9	+9
Oneida	73	29	51	-4	1.48	3	4.77	+2.41	4	-24
Pikeville	76	30	57	-2	1.33	4	5.59	+3.17	9	-9
Portland_TN	69	31	52	-5	1.02	2	3.25	+0.93	11	-2
Pulaski_Water_P	70	28	53	-9	2.03	3	6.86	+4.43	14	-21
Savannah_6SW	69	29	54	-8	1.33	4	4.41	+1.53	23	+0
Sparta_TN	77	32	57	+1	1.30	4	4.27	+1.83	28	+16
Springfield	70	25	52	-5	1.15	1	3.08	+0.78	12	-3
Springhill	70	35	53	-5	1.83	4	5.27	+2.58	22	+6
Union_City	69	32	53	-5	1.07	3	2.08	-0.48	8	-13

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.      Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Copyright 1999: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved